

I-5 – South 317th Street HOV Direct Access Project Update

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In this issue: Construction Update / I-5 Traffic Revision and Lane & Ramp Closures / Wheel Options / Highway Advisory Radio Updates

Construction Update

Last Thursday night, Oct. 14, we shifted southbound traffic to the **temporary roadway** in the I-5 median. This week crews will place additional signs and additional barrier and striping for the exit ramp to S. 320th Street.

On the west side of the freeway excavation continues on the new **detention pond** south of S. 317th Street. Last week, crews poured concrete for the panels of the **retaining wall** nearby.

On the east side of I-5, crews paved the northbound shoulder last week. **Drainage** system installation continues, including pipes running underneath the northbound on-ramp at S. 320th Street.

Crews have installed more poles for the **temporary lighting system** and are installing temporary lights under the S. 320th bridge.

The project is approximately **27 percent complete**. Visit http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5_S317th_DirectAccess/photos to view construction photos.

I-5 Traffic Revision and Lane and Ramp Closures

Southbound I-5 traffic is now using the **temporary median roadway** between Military Road and S. 320th Street. The temporary roadway is required for several months while crews replace 42-year-old pavement and build supports for the new South 317th bridge over southbound I-5. Thus far drivers appear to be adjusting easily to this traffic revision. Send an e-mail to Laura Johnson at JohnsoL@wsdot.wa.gov to give us your feedback on the temporary roadway.

This week, drivers should anticipate **weeknight closures of up to three lanes in each direction of I-5**, starting at 7 p.m. each night. The **northbound exit ramp to S. 320th will close Monday through Thursday nights at 9 p.m.** All lanes and ramps will reopen by 5 a.m. each morning.

On **Wednesday** night, Oct. 20, there will be a **rolling slowdown on northbound I-5** so crews can install electrical system wire over the freeway.

Drivers should still anticipate daytime closures of a single lane of southbound I-5 through the project area for work on the temporary lighting system.

Wheel Options

The Federal Way direct access ramps and transit center will make it more convenient for drivers to leave their cars at home (or at the transit center) and **ride the bus** or join a **carpool** or **vanpool**. The ramps will connect directly between the I-405 carpool lanes and the transit center, which will save time and improve safety for all drivers, but especially for those who share the ride.

If you want to warm up for the opening of the new direct access ramps, now is the perfect time to try ridesharing. If you're a Washington State resident and carpool, vanpool or ride the bus to work twice during the period between October 11-22, you can enter to **win prizes!**

Wheel Options is a semi-annual campaign organized by the Washington State Ridesharing Organization. It encourages the public to use options like riding public transit, carpooling, bicycling and working from home to get a few more cars off the road. This eases traffic congestion, helps keep the air cleaner, and can be even be a stress reliever. Prizes include a trip to Mexico, weekend getaways, gift cards and more.

You can read more about **commute options** and enter to win prizes at <http://www.wheeloptions.org>.

Highway Advisory Radio Updates

Every week, we update our message on highway advisory radio in Federal Way (**AM 1520**). Besides giving you the latest closure information, we also provide facts about the 317th direct access project.

If you've listened to our radio messages, drop us a line and let us know what you think: e-mail Laura Johnson at JohnsoL@wsdot.wa.gov.
